

News From U.S. Senator

North Dakota

Byron L. Dorgan

U.S. Senate " 713 Hart Building " Washington D.C. 20510

E-mail: senator@dorgan.senate.gov " Internet Web Page: www.senate.gov/~dorgan

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Contact: Dana McCallum
or Barry Piatt

PHONE: 202-224-2551

STATEMENT OF U.S. SENATOR BYRON L. DORGAN

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) -- U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND) issued the following statement today following the announcement that Kyle Bell has been captured:

TEXT OF STATEMENT

by U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan

1/9/00

"I applaud the members of the law enforcement community for their determined work to apprehend convicted killer Kyle Bell.

"The capture of Kyle Bell this morning in Texas will be a relief not only to the family of Jeanna North, but to all North Dakotans.

"I intend to continue to work in the Congress to pass legislation that will impose tough, common sense standards that private companies must meet if they are transporting violent criminals. My legislation is cosponsored by Senator John Ashcroft (R-Mo) and we intend to attach it to the crime bill that will be considered this year.

"But frankly, I hope the escape of Kyle Bell will stimulate state and local governments to review their policies on the transport of violent criminals. I think that the public safety would be better served by policies at the state and local levels that would use the Federal Marshalls service for the transport of violent criminals instead of using private companies. The mistakes that were made by the company transporting Kyle Bell were inexcusable."

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